

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A transaction assisting apparatus for assisting transactions in goods, comprising:

chain order input means permitting input of a chain order, the chain order being an order requesting, on condition of sale or purchase of first goods, purchase or sale of second goods different from the first goods;

order detecting means for detecting an order for purchase or sale of the first goods with respect to which the chain order is placed; and

chain order processing means, responsive to the detection of a buy or sell order with respect to a predetermined chain order by said order detecting means, for performing a selling or purchasing process with respect to the first goods and performing a purchasing or selling process with respect to the second goods.

2. The transaction assisting apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising chain order storing means for storing the chain order input from said chain order input means; and

deleting means for deleting, from said chain order storing means, a chain order with respect to which processing has been completed by said chain order processing means.

3. The transaction assisting apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising display means for selectively displaying [those of] the chain orders which include a sell or buy

order for the second goods and which satisfy a condition for sale or purchase of the second goods.

4. The transaction assisting apparatus according to  
5 claim 3, wherein said display means inhibits display of  
information about a buy or sell order for the second goods  
included in the chain order when the chain order is placed, and  
displays the information after the chain order is transacted.

10 5. The transaction assisting apparatus according to  
claim 3, further comprising price changing means, responsive to  
change in price of the second goods among chain orders displayed  
by said display means, for changing the price of the corresponding  
first goods in an interlocked manner.

15 6. The transaction assisting apparatus according to  
claim 1, wherein said chain order processing means performs chain  
order processing in series if an order placed with respect to  
the second goods to be transacted is a chain order.

20 7. The transaction assisting apparatus according to  
claim 1, further comprising tax amount calculating means for  
calculating an amount of tax to be paid as a result of transaction;  
and

25 notifying means for notifying parties concerned in the  
transaction of the chain order of the amount of tax calculated  
by said tax amount calculating means.

8. The transaction assisting apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising transfer means for automatically transferring a price and a tax payable as a result of transaction from one to another of accounts of parties concerned in the transaction.

9. A computer-readable recording medium recording a program to be executed by a computer for causing the computer to perform a transaction assisting process for assisting transactions in goods,

wherein the program causes the computer to function as:

chain order input means permitting input of a chain order, the chain order being an order requesting, on condition of sale or purchase of first goods, purchase or sale of second goods different from the first goods;

order detecting means for detecting an order for purchase or sale of the first goods with respect to which the chain order is placed; and

chain order processing means, responsive to the detection of a buy or sell order with respect to a predetermined chain order by the order detecting means, for performing a selling or purchasing process with respect to the first goods and performing a purchasing or selling process with respect to the second goods.